

# Michigan Ethanol Working Group News



## Who We Are

The Ethanol Working Group (EWG) is a coalition of private and non-profit organizations, universities, and local and state government agencies interested in the promotion of ethanol in Michigan.

## Contact Information

If you are interested in receiving the Michigan EWG News and/or have ethanol-related information you would like to submit for this publication, contact Kelly Launder, Michigan Biomass Energy Program Coordinator at (517) 241-6223 or by email at: [klaund@michigan.gov](mailto:klaund@michigan.gov)

Additional ethanol information is available on the Michigan Biomass Energy Program website at <http://michiganbioenergy.org> and the Corn Marketing Program of Michigan website at [www.micorn.org](http://www.micorn.org)

## **EWG Activities**

### **Use of ethanol in snowmobiles discussed at May meeting**

Dr. Greg Davis from Kettering University was the featured speaker at the May Ethanol Working Group meeting. Dr. Davis spoke to the group about Kettering's conversion of a snowmobile to run on ethanol-blends of up to 85% and their participation in the 2002 SAE Clean Snowmobile Challenge. Their converted snowmobile achieved a 97% reduction in emissions when operating on a 10% ethanol blend. Testing is currently being conducted to determine emission decreases when running the snowmobile on E85. In addition to tying for first place overall in the competition Kettering also received individual honors for the Quietest Snowmobile, Most Practical, and Best Value.

### **Ethanol Labeling Requirement Discussion**

At the June EWG meeting a representative from the MI Dept. of Agriculture-Motor Fuels Quality Office will discuss the Michigan labeling law for ethanol and tank storage issues.

## **Ethanol Plant Update**

Broin Associates, LLC reports that everything remains on schedule for a November startup at the Caro ethanol plant. They will start the managerial hiring in this next quarter and begin the transition from construction to business operations at the same time. The plant is expected to utilize 14.3 million bushels of corn per year.

## **Additional Updates**

### **Ethanol Cold-Start project report available on MBEP website**

The final report for a Kettering University project to improve the cold start performance in ethanol vehicles is now available on the Michigan Biomass Energy Program (MBEP) website at <http://michiganbioenergy.org>. The Kettering project- "Development of Technologies to Improve Cold Start Performance of Ethanol Vehicles" focused on the use of hydrogen enrichment for cold start improvements.

### **International Fuel Ethanol Workshop**

The 18<sup>th</sup> annual International Fuel Ethanol Workshop will be held on June 25-28 in Springfield, Illinois. The workshop will provide information on technology and services for improving production processes, yields and operations of an ethanol facility. Visit the BBI website at [www.bbiethanol.com](http://www.bbiethanol.com) for additional information.

### **DOE Extends Deadline for Broad Based Solicitation**

The deadline for submitting proposals for the DOE Broad Based solicitation has been extended to May 29<sup>th</sup>. Through this solicitation DOE plans to make up to \$1.2 million available for E-85 infrastructure development and promotion strategies. Additional information is available on the MBEP website under "Project Funding".

### **Governor Engler Announces Alternative Energy Research Plan**

Governor John Engler has announced a plan to position Michigan as a leader in alternative energy research. The "NextEnergy" Plan will include the development of a research center, a venture capital fund to promote research, and tax breaks for residents who buy automobiles or power sources that use alternative energy. It is estimated that \$30-\$50 million over 3-5 years will be invested in this initiative.